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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 001525

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ELA, AF/SPG

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SUBJECT: NCP AND SPLM CAIRO OFFICE HEADS DISCUSS U.S. AND  
EGYPTIAN ROLES IN SUDAN

REF: CAIRO 1306

Classified By: Minister Counselor for Economic and Political Affairs Donald A. Blome for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

- 1.(C) Key Points: -- The heads of the Cairo offices of the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement (SPLM) and the Sudanese National Congress Party (SNC)
- 2.(C) Comment: The SPLM and NCP offices in Cairo are actively cultivating a good relationship with the GoE and reaching out to provide services to the Sudanese people.
- 3.(C) Nasr Al Din Kosheib, Head of the SPLM's Cairo office said on July 30 the Government of Egypt (GoE) plays an important role in Sudan because of its proximity and influence.
- 4.(C) Both Kosheib and Ali support the Egyptian effort to unite the political demands of Darfuri groups as a necessary step toward peace. However, they believe the Egyptian effort should be based on the principle of self-determination.
- 5.(C) SPLM's Kosheib said the USG-sponsored CPA conference in June was an "excellent step" and showed that the U.S. was willing to resolve the Sudanese conflict.
- 6.(C) NCP's Ali said a U.S. role is needed to overcome the difficulties in CPA implementation such as the lack of trust between the NCP and SPLM.
- 7.(C) Ali was in charge of preparations for the Sudanese President Bashir's Cairo speech, which was given on July 18 at the Cairo International Conference Center.
- 8.(C) Kosheib said SPLM supports recent Cairo Agreements between the Sudanese Umma Party and the Sudanese National Congress Party, notwithstanding some differences.
- 9.(C) In June, SPLM started a program to educate Sudanese living in Egypt on the process for the 2010 Sudanese Presidential election, according to Ali.